90th ANNIVERSARY 1899-1989

our fourfooted friends

Animal Rescue League of Boston • Summer 1989

Animal Rescue League of Boston

Publisher of

Our Fourfooted Friends

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Summer 1989
Volume 86, No. 2

COVER:

This photo by Stephanie Rotondo, 13, of Medford, won first prize in the junior color category of the League's 90th Anniversary Animal Photography Contest. See the back cover for the first prize photo in the adult color category, and page 5 for the complete list of winners.

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Animal Shelters

Boston
Corner of Arlington & Tremont Sts.
P.O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117-0265
Frank X. Carmichael, *Manager*
(617) 426-9170

Cape Cod
Route 6A, E. Brewster, MA 02631-0023
Lynda Brogden, *Manager*
(508) 255-1030

North Shore
378 Highland Ave., Salem, MA 01970-1744
Debra Black, *Manager*
(617) 744-7910

Dedham
Pine Ridge Animal Center
238 Pine St., Dedham, MA 02026-4005
(617) 326-0729

Safford Memorial Animal Shelter
Robert G. Walsh, *Manager*

Pine Ridge Cemetery for Animals
Michael P. Thomas, *Superintendent*

Animal Friends Summer School
96 Megansett Rd., N. Falmouth, MA 02556-0800

Affiliations

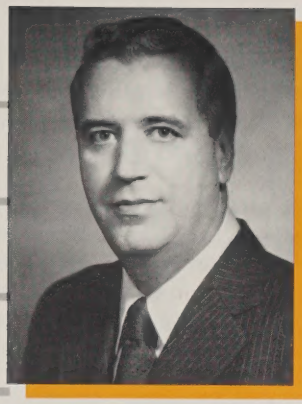
Red Acre Farm
Hearing Dog Center
109 Red Acre Road, Stow, MA 01775

New England Federation of Humane Societies
Boston, MA

American Humane Association
Denver, Colorado

World Society for the Protection of Animals
Boston, MA (Regional Office)

Our Fourfooted Friends
(US ISSN 0030 6851) *Published quarterly by the Animal Rescue League of Boston, 10 Chandler Street, Boston, MA 02116-5221.* Price $4.00 a year. Office of Publication, Animal Rescue League of Boston, 10 Chandler Street, Boston, MA 02116-5221. Address all correspondence, editorial, subscriptions to the Animal Rescue League of Boston, P.O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117-0265. Post Master: Send address changes to the Animal Rescue League of Boston, P.O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117-0265. Second Class Postage has been paid at Boston, Massachusetts.



Arthur G. Slade, *President*

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A PUNISHMENT TO FIT THE CRIME

From time to time, I have asked our members and friends to write or otherwise contact their Legislators to help us improve laws for the welfare of animals.

I would like to once again request this type of help in obtaining the passage of an Act before the Massachusetts Legislature which the League introduced to increase the penalties for "the malicious killing, maiming or disfiguring of an animal by its owner, possessor or caretaker."

Currently, our Massachusetts laws provide a more severe penalty (a felony) for someone who cruelly treats an animal belonging to someone else, but the basic cruelty law makes it only a misdemeanor for similar crimes committed by the owner or keeper of the animal.

Senate Bill 195, sponsored by the League, seeks to increase the penalties for the malicious killing, maiming or disfiguring of an animal by its owner or caretaker. In particular, it would increase the penalty of the Cruelty to Animals Law (Chapter 272, Section 77) from the present five hundred dollar fine or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both; to imprisonment in state prison for up to five years, or by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars and imprisonment in jail for not more than one year. This would also increase the status of the crime from a misdemeanor to a felony.

Certainly the degree of punishment for committing a crime of severe brutality against an animal should not be determined by whether the animal is owned or not owned by the defendant.

The need for this improvement in the cruelty law has been especially apparent in several recent cruelty cases we have prosecuted in the Courts. In some instances even judges have urged us to seek this change. Perhaps the most publicized case was that of Brian Watson with all the wild animals which was reported in detail in the 1988 Summer and Fall issues of this publication.

If you are willing to help with the passage of this much needed improvement to our cruelty law, please drop a brief letter of support for Senate Bill 195 to:

James T. Brett, House Chairman
Paul D. Harold, Senate Chairman
Committee on Criminal Justice
State House
Boston, MA 02202

At this time it would be important to urge the Committee on Criminal Justice to act on the bill by reporting it out of Committee with a Favorable Report.

It is always helpful to also let your own state Senator and Representative know that you strongly support this legislation.

It would be especially useful if you could send me copies of any letters you are able to write as well as any responses you may receive from the Legislators.

I am truly grateful for the assistance of our friends in this important project.

1989 ANNUAL MEETING

Members and friends attending the League's 90th annual meeting held Wednesday, April 26, at League headquarters, gained new insight into a variety of worldwide animal protection efforts described by main speaker John C. Walsh, regional director of the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA), and also had an opportunity to meet a special fourfooted guest of honor, a Boston Police horse named "Fritz" whose rescuers were among those honored at the meeting.

John C. Hatch, chairman of the board, welcomed those attending and introduced League president, Arthur G. Slade who presented Certificates of Appreciation to representatives of the Boston Fire Department (Ladder Co. 17, Rescue Co. 1, and Special Unit H-2) and the Shaughnessy & Ahern Crane Company, for their outstanding efforts in the rescue of the police horse after it fell through a hole in a South End street. After a two-hour effort, the rescue team was finally able to hoist Fritz out of the hole with the aid of a 35-ton cherry picker owned by Shaughnessy & Ahern which donated its services.

President Slade also presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Joseph Karvinsky, 14, of Charlestown, who heroically stepped forward last summer to help the League identify and prosecute a man who had beaten a dog with a baseball bat. The League was summoned to Joe's neighborhood to aid the dog, which was found severely injured, with facial fractures, and bleeding from the mouth. A group of youngsters had been playing nearby, but when League agents sought witnesses, Joe Karvinsky was the only one willing to testify. He described how the man had hit the dog ten or twelve times. "The dog was just minding his own business, lying in the shade, when he did it." Thanks to Joe's evidence, the League was able to apprehend and bring charges against the dog's assailant, but within hours after his arraignment he was shot in an unrelated incident and later died. After a period of treatment in intensive care, the dog recuperated and was returned to its owner.

Also announced at the annual meeting were the names of award winners in the League's 90th Anniversary Animal Photography Contest, selected from over 450 entries by a panel of judges which included Mark Wilson, staff photographer and columnist at the *Boston Globe;* Keith Nordstrum, photographer at the *Attleboro Sun;* J. Walter Green, former photo chief at Associated Press; Bob Howard of Photography Unlimited; and Arthur G. Slade. The winning photos were displayed at the meeting and will be appearing in *Our Fourfooted Friends* throughout the coming year, starting with this issue (see front and back cover photos and photos on page 18).

Officer Frank Pomodoro (second from right) of the Boston Police Mounted Unit brought his partner "Fritz" to the meeting to get reacquainted with his rescuers who received Certificates of Appreciation. They are (l to r): Boston firefighter Brian O'Donnell; Thomas Shaughnessy and Al Moulton of Shaughnessy and Ahern (Moulton operated the crane which hoisted Fritz to safety); and (far right) Boston firefighter Robert Martin.

90th ANNIVERSARY PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

Adult Color Category

First Prize:	Gina Mantino, Lynn
Second Prize:	Frank Weldon, Danvers
Third Prize:	Laurie Marshall, Hampton, N.H.
Honorable Mention:	Ellen Reppucci, Roslindale
	Kevin Bazarian, West Falmouth
	Harold Pruskin, Framingham

Adult Black-and-White

First Prize:	Susan Furst, South Boston
Second Prize:	Cheryl Kalus, Everett
Third Prize:	Elizabeth Ebrahimi-Massihi, Arlington
Honorable Mention:	Peter Sitzma, Lexington
	Barbara McDowell, East Orleans

Junior Color

First Prize:	Stephanie Rotondo, 13, Medford
Second Prize:	Jenna Gove, 13, Orleans
Third Prize:	Sarah Chen, 10, Burlington
Honorable Mention:	Terri Kennan, 9, East Weymouth
	Amy Deardorff, 14, Brewster

Junior Black-and-White

First Prize:	Renée Valle, 17, Brewster
Second Prize:	Holly Goss Kerns, 17, Walpole
Third Prize:	Holly Goss Kerns
Honorable Mention:	Holly Goss Kerns

Guest speaker John Walsh thanked the League's members for their support which made possible the expansion of a variety of international humane programs during the past year. WSPA, which has 312 member organizations in 63 countries, concentrates its efforts in less developed nations where little or nothing exists in the way of formal humane organizations on the local level.

One recent focus of their concern is the use of animals for hostile military purposes, an issue raised by WSPA and placed on the agenda of the United Nations at their request after reports of shepherds and dobermans being used to carry bombs into enemy camps in the mid-east, and dolphins being trained to deliver explosive charges underwater.

Walsh also described programs aimed at combatting the inhumane slaughter of animals for the fur trade, promoting more humane methods of export for New Zealand sheep, fostering passage of humane laws in Brazil, and conserving the pink dolphin population in the Amazon, as well as WSPA's ongoing marine debris campaign, directed at eliminating hazards to marine life, such as the legislation recently passed in Florida and Massachusetts which prohibits the sale of plastic six-pack rings, unless they are biodegradable.

In his president's report, Arthur Slade noted a dramatic increase in the number of cruelty investigations and inspection activities during 1988, and expressed the League's appreciation for its members' support of humane endeavors on the local and international levels. "All that we do is made possible by friends and members," he said. "We thank all of you, and our board of directors, and most especially our dedicated staff."

Certificate of Appreciation recipient Joe Karvinsky is congratulated by John C. Hatch, chairman of the board, and Arthur G. Slade, League president.

Arthur G. Slade and John C. Hatch surprise Holly Kerns, 17, a senior at Noble and Greenough, with the news that she won a second and third prize, and an honorable mention, in the junior division of the League's animal photo contest. Holly has been a volunteer at the League for the past year, and happened to be at the League when the awards were announced at the annual meeting.

John E. Dawson

The League's Directors and Staff note with great sadness the passing of John E. Dawson.

Mr. Dawson first became a Director of the League in April, 1966 and in November, 1970 he was elected Treasurer of the League, a position he held until his death on March 23, 1989. All who knew him will recall with special fondness his bright and cheerful spirit and willingness to be of help. He gave many, many hours of his time and talents for the League's benefit. He was a special friend whom we shall long remember for his kindness and devoted service.

This puppy was struck by a car while enjoying his "freedom."

Misplaced and Miserable

By Terrie Bierig-Neyland

The Animal Rescue League's Boston based animal shelter receives *thousands* of calls yearly from people who have either lost or found a pet. In the past two months the Boston shelter has logged the following lost and found reports: 83 lost cats, 116 lost dogs, 23 found cats, 38 found dogs. The shelter has also housed 238 stray cats and 138 stray dogs in only two months. Of these 636 pets reported lost, found, or listed as stray, only **27** wore a license or identification tag.

These 636 pets represent totals from only one of four League animal shelters and the League itself is one of more than 7,000 humane organizations across the U.S. Humane organizations are receiving staggering numbers of stray animals and "lost & found" reports on pets. These numbers represent only the pets that reach the Boston League shelter. There are many more that never receive help and these pets are truly "lost" as they remain on the streets and suffer through a generally short and precarious life. Some of the more unfortunate "misplaced" pets land in research facilities after being sold by animal dealers.

Animal dealers obtain animals through a variety of means, some legal and some not. The United States Department of Agriculture licenses animal dealers according to the way in which they obtain the animals they sell. Class A dealers are licensed to breed all the animals he or she sells. Class B dealers are licensed to sell animals obtained through "random sources" which means the animals obtained for sale could be stolen, stray, or easily plucked from "free to good home" advertisements. In states where laws do not prevent the sale of shelter animals, Class B dealers have a steady supply of pets to sell to laboratories. A "buncher" is a sort of middleman between the animal and some USDA licensed animal dealers. A buncher also obtains animals from random sources exclusively to sell at auction or directly to animal dealers. If a buncher or Class B dealer steals your pet, there is very little chance you will recover it. Animals available for sale are regularly transported across state lines, so tracing a single stolen pet is nearly impossible. The American Humane Association (AHA) and the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) recently reported that "25,000 pets a year, in Missouri alone, end up in the hands of dog dealers and laboratories." It is a fact that unscrupulous animal dealers

do exist and, regardless of which state you live in, it would hardly be impossible for your pet to fall victim to them. Pet owners can help put pet thieves out of business by monitoring their pets when they go outside.

When a licensed dog or cat with an identification tag arrives at a League shelter, there is a near 100% chance of reuniting pet and owner; however, when an unlicensed, untagged pet is brought in we are forced to wait and hope that the owner will find us. Of course, for many animals in League shelters there is no owner looking for them, and for others the search is never completed. One of the most frustrating situations experienced by League staffers is having a shelter full of not only pets that were surrendered by owners but literally hundreds of stray and lost animals. Many pet owners have no other choice but to surrender a pet to a humane society but *every* pet owner has the choice and the ability to avoid transforming their cat or dog into a "misplaced" pet. It is an old story but one that still needs to be told, again and again, until pet owners take responsibility for licensing or tagging their pets. Identification tags can be purchased at any pet supply store or through the mail. Order forms for identification tags can be obtained at all four branch shelters of the Animal Rescue League. As the previously listed statistics demonstrate, cats are just as capable of becoming lost as dogs and they need identification tags, too.

Neutering pets will serve to reduce their tendency to wander in search of mates and actually improve their chances of not developing certain diseases. Dogs and cats do not "need their freedom" as many anthropomorphizing pet owners are so fond of informing shelter personnel—the same shelter personnel who feed, cleanup after, and sometimes nurse thousands of strays each year. What dogs and cats *do* need are responsible pet owners who do not let them roam unattended. In April, at the Dedham branch, an injured cat was found lying against the fence in the pet cemetery. The cat was found to have one hind leg broken in three places and the other hind leg had sustained severe nerve damage and is useless. The cat was a young neutered male, orange tabby, and was wearing a collar but no identification tag. The cat was obviously owned and had been cared for but, without a tag to lead us to the owners, he not only had become a stray but had been seriously injured while enjoying his "freedom." Many pet owners respond to being urged to confine their pets or walk their dogs on leashes, so as to protect them, with anger. "I do not have time to walk the dog for 20 or 30 minutes, two or three times a day!" they say. To this we can only wonder why they own a pet at all when they so willingly run the risk of losing it and obviously do not have the time required for responsible pet ownership.

To pet owners who insist that it is "cruel" to confine a dog or cat and persist in allowing them to roam free, we urge that they at least do the absolute minimum in demonstrating concern for their pet by licensing or tagging them. The real cruelty is perpetrated by pet owners who ignore the dangers of life in the streets for pets and could actually be "killing them with kindness" by allowing them to roam free. The majority of pet owners who lose pets will never know if their pet has become a statistic in the League's Lost & Found log, or one of thousands of strays sheltered each year, or killed in the street, or a victim of pet theft, or abused by a cruel stranger. The fantasy that a "misplaced" pet is sleeping on a plush rug, next to a crackling fire, in a kind family's home is just that . . . a fantasy. The reality is what happened to that young male cat found on the grounds of the Dedham branch. Responsible pet owners do not have to wonder or fantasize about a pet's fate because their pet is lying at their feet, or curled on their lap, safe and secure, and wearing an identification tag.

Accompanying your pets on walks is the best way to ensure their safety.

90th ANNIVERSARY OPEN HOUSES

Neighbors and friends had an opportunity to tour the League shelters and get better acquainted with its staff and services at a series of open house celebrations held in honor of the League's 90th Anniversary. Here are some scenes from the events which took place April 22 at the Cape Cod Branch in East Brewster, May 21 at the Sheldon Branch in Salem, and June 4 at the Pine Ridge Animal Center in Dedham.

DEDHAM

Visitors to the Pine Ridge open house enjoy a demonstration by farrier Randy Kersham, and refreshments under the tent. Shelter manager Bob Walsh discusses "Harley," a shelter pet offered for adoption, with Dana Gotta of Sharon, holding her niece Samantha.

CAPE COD

Officer Ernie Butilier and his dog "Thor," members of the Orleans K-9 Police Unit, demonstrate Thor's skills for delighted onlookers and shelter manager Lynda Brogden introduces a shelter pet to Kenny, 4, and Laura Philbrick, 3, of Brewster. Also pictured is the League float which took a prize the next day in the annual "Brewster in Bloom" parade.

SALEM

Donna Meade (left) of the Meade School of Dog Obedience in Lynn, with "Lucy," and Joan Hubbard of Lynn, with her dog "Tinker Bell, C.D.," demonstrate crossing techniques for the audience which includes shelter manager Debra Black (dark shirt, rear center). Vanessa Meade, 5, (at right) gives "Kelly" a lesson in sitting and staying.

Good News for Elders

Thanks to new legislation, more seniors will be able to enjoy the companionship of pets.

Residents of state housing for the elderly and handicapped are on the verge of winning a right that has been enjoyed by elderly and handicapped tenants in federally subsidized housing for the past five years, and was guaranteed to a similar population of tenants in the city of Boston in 1988. As this issue goes to press, the Pets in Elderly Housing Bill (S581), a measure that would allow residents of the Commonwealth's housing for the elderly and handicapped to keep pets, has been approved by the State Senate and the House of Representatives, and is awaiting the Governor's signature.

The benefits of pet companionship, both emotional and physical, have been widely documented, particularly among the elderly or handicapped populations, especially those who live alone. Despite this fact, elderly persons who gave up their homes to move into state or federally-subsidized apartments were for years forced to give away or, worse, euthanize, their life-long companions.

Recognizing the need to correct this tragic chain of circumstances, the federal government passed legislation in November, 1983, that stated: "No owner or manager of any federally-assisted rental housing for the elderly or handicapped may as a condition of tenancy prohibit or prevent any tenant in such housing from owning common household pets . . . or discriminate against any person in connection with admission to such housing by reason of the ownership of such pets." Accompanying the federal legislation were guidelines drawn up to ensure the law's workability and fairness, dealing with such issues as pet size, pet density in households, vaccinations, sanitation, and financial issues such as responsibility for damages.

Similar legislation was proposed in the Commonwealth in 1986, leading to the creation of a one-year pilot study during 1987 which allowed pets in five designated housing developments. The program was aimed at evaluating the feasibility of allowing pets in senior housing, and identifying any potential problems. The pilot program was a resounding success, producing ample evidence that the benefits of pet ownership far outweighed any problems that might ensue. The proposed bill, however, did not come up for a vote during the 1988 legislative session.

Meanwhile, members of the Boston City Council passed an ordinance on October 21, 1988 that extended the rights of pet ownership to elderly and handicapped residents in private housing in the city, except for tenants in owner-occupied dwellings of three families or less, "provided they agree to abide by reasonable rules relating to animal control and pet care."

In 1989, the state bill was reintroduced and presented to the Committee on Housing and Urban Development in early March. League representatives were among those testifying in its favor: "Well documented research has strongly indicated that pets are actually of tremendous therapeutic value, especially to the elderly. Pet companions can lower blood pressure and speed recovery from an illness. They can also help alleviate depression and loneliness. An added benefit of the elderly having pets is for the pet itself —a home is provided for an animal that might otherwise have had to be euthanized."

The measure was reported out favorably by the committee and won swift approval from the Senate, which passed the measure on May 1, and the House which approved it on June 6. The importance of the bill was perhaps best summarized by the following testimony from Dr. Lewis B. Klebanoff of the Cushing Hospital in Framingham. After noting that "just in the decade of the 80's the number of Americans 65 and over will increase by 20%, from 20 to 30 million," he stated: "What's good for public housing is not the issue. What's good for people is the issue. Our parents and our grandparents are worth bothering about. Let's look at it this way— the more we do for them, the more decent, caring communities we are preparing for ourselves."

LATE NEWS BULLETIN!
The Pets in Elderly Housing Bill was signed into law by Governor Michael Dukakis on June 19, and will become effective on September 17, 1989.

PET APPRECIATION DAY

To celebrate its 90th Anniversary, the League held a Pet Appreciation Day on Boston Common, Saturday, May 13, during Be Kind to Animals Week, featuring a pet show for children and their favorite friends. Here are some of the happy winners.

DOUBLE THE FUN—Marissa Moss and her dog, "Madison" took top honors in the pet-and-owner look- a-like contest.

TOP DOG—"Goldie" relaxes with owner Susan DeYoung after winning first prize in the male dog division.

PRIZE PET—Kimberly McDonald hugs her pet "Samantha" who won second prize in the cat competition.

BLUE RIBBON BUNNY—Gary DeYoung poses with his pet rabbit "Dory" who won a blue ribbon in the miscellaneous pet division.

MORE THAN JUST A PRETTY FACE—"Chou-Mon," an 8-week-old Sharpei owned by Jordana L'Esperance, won first prize in the puppy group.

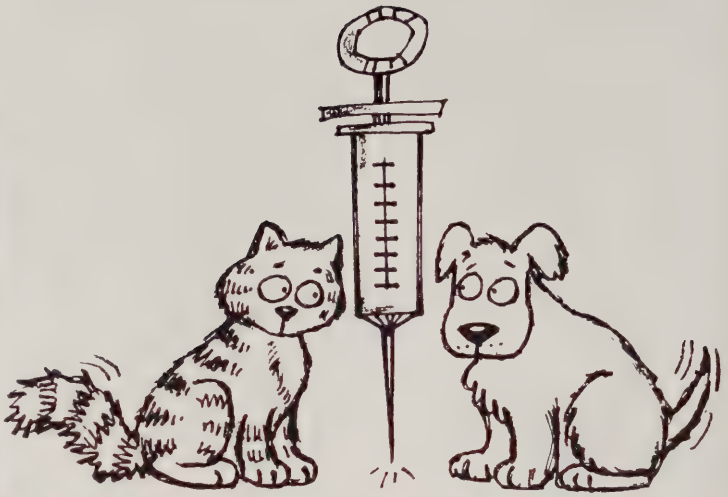
TOP CAT—*"P.J." has a purr-fect day, posing here with owner Sharon Ann Quinn after winning a first prize blue ribbon.*

SOMETHING TO WAG ABOUT—*Sarah Thomae is doubly proud of her dog "Simba" who won second prize for male dogs and "best trick," and was also chosen as the "Best Tailwagger."*

BEST OF SHOW—*"Nibbles" and her proud owner Jill Simmons took Best of Show honors, after winning first prize in the female dog category, and the dog obedience competition.*

WINNER'S CIRCLE—*Even the clown got into the act, as judges chat with Janeye Lee, whose bird "Sophie" won first prize in the "miscellaneous pets with two feet or less" category.*

BUFFY STRUTS HIS STUFF—*"Buffy," with owner Julie Appolloni, demonstrates the talent that won her first prize for the best trick.*



A Veterinary Update:

Your Best Shots at Pet Protection

By Edward A. Leonard, D.V.M.

Pet owners should be aware of some new advances in pet immunization that have recently become available. One is a new form of the feline leukemia vaccine that is more potent and more efficient than the original vaccine, and the second development is a new vaccine that offers protection against coronavirus, recently identified as a major health problem among dogs, especially young puppies. Both vaccines are now being administered to animals at the League adoption shelters.

Feline Leukemia Vaccine—the second generation

The new feline leukemia vaccine is superior to the original vaccine, first made available in 1985, in three important ways. First, it is more powerful, delivering up to three times as much protection per dose. Second, because of its potency, it only requires a two-shot initial vaccination series, rather than three shots, thereby reducing the number of veterinary visits required and, therefore, the cost involved. Finally, because it can be administered subcutaneously, instead of by intramuscular injection, it is less painful to your pet. Annual booster shots are still required.

Protection against Coronavirus

First identified in 1978, canine coronaviral infection is a highly contagious disease that causes diarrhea, vomiting and dehydration, symptoms similar to parvovirus. While not as deadly as parvovirus, coronavirus can lead to serious health problems, and puppies are particularly susceptible to the disease.

In just the past year, a new vaccine has become available that offers effective protection against this disease. Puppies should be vaccinated against coronavirus at about the age of six to eight weeks. The vaccine is also recommended for any older dogs that have frequent contact with other dogs, like show dogs, for example.

Is your dog boarding out this summer?

Pet owners who are planning to place their dogs in boarding kennels while they vacation this summer should be aware of another new development in disease protection. Ask your veterinarian about the canine parainfluenza vaccine, a nasal vaccine which protects dogs against the contagious disease commonly known as "kennel cough." For best results, dogs should be vaccinated at least one week prior to placement in a boarding kennel or other canine group setting.

Heartworm Reminder!

It's not too late to have your dog tested for heartworm disease, and placed on preventive medication, if you have not already done so. This disease is transmitted by mosquitoes and is a major health threat throughout the summer months. Effective preventive medication is available in pill or liquid form, to be taken once a day, or once a month, depending on the form of medication. Consult your veterinarian today!

Seminar Examines Cult Crimes

This spring, the skinned bodies of a raccoon and a beaver were found in rural Allenstown, N.H. Nearby was a circle of white feathers.

A year ago, near Scituate, Massachusetts, police discovered daggers, strange symbols, candles and an animal skull in an old ammunitions bunker.

Cult activity, or kids experimenting? Devilment—or devil worship? In April, approximately 110 law enforcement officers, animal welfare, child welfare, and mental health professionals attended a three-day seminar aimed at providing answers to such crucial questions. The educational program, sponsored by the League, brought national authorities on satanic cult activities together at the Holiday Inn in Natick, April 12-14, to help those most likely to encounter evidence of child abuse, or animal abuse, learn to recognize and identify signs that might indicate cult activity in their area. On the opening day of the seminar, the first news reports of the grisly discovery of drug and cult-related ritual murders in Matamoros, Mexico brought added urgency and timeliness to the subject matter.

Signs of such activity frequently go unrecognized because of a number of factors cited by the speakers. These include the tendency to dismiss the evidence as vandalism or teenage experimentation; to brand suspicion of cult activity as paranoid fantasy; and finally the perpetuation of the myth that satanism is a harmless religious practice. Conference leader Dr. Dale W. Griffis told the seminar participants that a 1940 court case set the legal precedent for responding to those who justify harmful cult activities by citing freedom of religion. "Your legal right to believe is one thing," he noted. "But if, in so believing, you abridge the rights of others, humans or animals, then you forfeit your right." Dr. Griffis is a retired captain from the Tiffin, Ohio police department, who is an authority on witchcraft and satanism, and has appeared on several television programs, including ABC's 20/20.

Investigative reporter Maurry Terry, whose book "The Ultimate Evil" exposed a cult conspiracy in the "Son of Sam" murder case, said: "Those of you who are in the humane field are in the front lines in finding clues that may demonstrate that cults are active in your area." He described a number of signs which may indicate a cult-related crime. "Before deciding that a crime is cult-related, you should eliminate all other motives," he cautioned. "If more than one of the following clues is present, however, the possibility of cult activity should be considered." Among the indicators were animal (or human) bodies found in isolated locations; candles, salt, cultic jewelry or other symbols at the crime scene; puncture wounds, symbolic wound patterns, ink or tattoo marks; absence of blood; proximity to ritualistic dates such as Halloween, or the vernal equinox, for example.

Dr. Carl Raschke, professor of religious studies and director of the Institute for the Humanities at the University of Denver, presented information on a number of dangerous cults known to be active in the United States at this time. "It doesn't matter if we believe in it; what matters is that they believe in it," speaker Maurry Terry commented.

Other speakers included Mrs. Pamela Kline, co-director of the International Consortium on Ritualistic Child Abuse and a special consultant to the National Center for the Prevention and Control of Rape at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; Dr. Joel Norris, an expert on the biopsychsocial profiling of serial offenders and non-traditional group members; Officer Jerry Simandl, a gang squad investigator for the Chicago Police Department, who spoke on the emergence of gangs into satanic cult groups; and Joseph Vieira, formerly sound and lighting producer for a number of well-known rock groups, who discussed rock music and the occult.

Thomas H. White, director of operations at the League and conference organizer, greets conference leader, Dr. Dale W. Griffis.

NEWSFRONT

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON

PANEL TO STUDY FARM ANIMAL PRACTICES

Law enforcement coordinator Carol McCarthy has been appointed to represent the League on the newly-formed Farm Animal Welfare Study Group, which will conduct a one-year investigation of farm animal-husbandry practices in the state, and afterwards submit recommendations for any needed changes in state legislation pertaining to the care of farm animals. The panel was formed in response to the controversy surrounding the farm animal referendum question which was defeated on last November's ballot.

PLASTIC SIX-PACK RINGS BANNED IN COMMONWEALTH

Plastic six-pack rings used to hold beer and soft drink cans, long a hazard to area waterfowl, are now banned in Massachusetts unless they are biodegradable within 60 days. The state's bottle bill was amended to require manufacturers to prove that their rings meet the biodegradability standards before they may be sold in this state. In effect, the law will ensure that no such rings are sold in the state at this time, since none have yet been demonstrated to be biodegradable in that short a period. A law passed recently in Florida requires that rings be biodegradable within 120 days in that state.

PET LOSS COUNSELING NOW AVAILABLE

For those who have recently lost a pet, or are anticipating the loss of a pet, the League is now offering an opportunity to share their feelings with an experienced counselor. An appointment for counseling, at no cost, can be arranged by calling Janice Bosworth at 426-9170. This new service is made possible by the kindness of Dr. Avery Weisman, recently retired as senior psychiatrist at Massachusetts General Hospital, who has been volunteering at the League since his retirement.

DOLPHIN PROTECTION EFFORT NOW UNDERWAY

A federal judge recently ordered all U.S. tuna fishing ships to carry federal observers on board to guarantee that dolphins are protected from illegal slaughter in tuna nets. The injunction was the result of a suit filed by Earth Island Institute, an environmental group concerned that dolphins were being killed in violation of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Fishing vessels use nets and explosives to herd and encircle dolphins, because schools of tuna are known to swim under dolphins. If not freed rapidly from the nets, dolphins can be injured, or drown because they are air-breathing mammals that must stay near the surface to come up regularly for air.

CERTIFICATION AWARDED TO BREWSTER SHELTER HEAD

Congratulations to Lynda Brogden, director of the League's Cape Cod Branch in East Brewster, who recently completed a new certification program for animal control officers. The program is sponsored by the Animal Control Officers Association of Massachusetts, in cooperation with the Massachusetts Criminal Justice Training Council.

WINNING DESIGNS BY STAFF ARTISTS

The designs for this year's League sweatshirts (see inside back cover) were chosen from drawings submitted by League staff members. Congratulations to design contest winners Kelly Keaveney, veterinary technician, whose drawing appears on the dark sweatshirt, and to Natalie Mair, veterinary technician, and Frank Carmichael, shelter manager, whose design appears on the front of the white sweatshirt.

ALL WRAPPED UP IN HIS WORK

Mike Sanford, a League ambulance driver, learns how to handle a python at a staff education program presented at the League on April 27 by herpetologist Dr. Rick Stafford.

GIVING A HOOT!

League agent Pegi Johnson holds a red phase screech owl that was cared for at the League's Cape Cod Branch after being rescued from a fireplace where it had evidently landed after a fall down a chimney. The owl was stunned, but not injured, and was later released in the area where it had been found.

RABIES CLINIC

"It won't hurt if you don't look," is this pet owner's advice to his apprehensive pooch who was among those immunized against rabies by Dr. Edward Leonard (left) at rabbies clinics held at the League on May 31 and June 3.

NEW KID IN TOWN

Kathy Phillbeck of the Dedham shelter staff entertains a two-week-old male goat, donated to the League by the Plimouth Plantation.

RIVER RESCUE AFTER OIL SPILL

League agents scour the Sudbury River for oil soaked geese and ducks after approximately 200 gallons of heating oil spilled into the river from a damaged pipeline last February. During the rescue effort, which took several days, approximately twenty birds were removed by League boats and brought to the New England Wildlife Clinic for cleaning and care. They were later returned to the river after the oil spill was cleaned up. Agents Martha Parkhurst and Karen Rikkers are shown removing a goose from the net; Ray Orlando (close up) passes an oil-soaked bird from the rescue boat; and Ed Powers propels the League's rescue boat with Orlando, as agent Parkhurst pursues an elusive bird with her net.

Pollution Busters!

Jessica and Jenni Everett were bursting with excitement as they ran down the sandy path that led to Black Rock beach. It was the beginning of their summer vacation and they were spending the first two weeks of it at a camp in Black Rock State Park.

After the Everett family set out their blankets and chairs Jenni asked her mother if she and Jessica could walk along the beach. "Okay," said Mrs. Everett "but don't go too far."

Jenni collected many pretty seashells as they explored the shoreline, while Jess ran ahead gathering up smooth flat stones that she could skip on the calm ocean waters.

"Hey Jenni!" Jessica cried out in excitement. "Look at all the birds over there." Jenni knew that the flock of birds were seagulls; she had learned about them in school this past year. As they quietly approached the seagulls they noticed that one of the birds had a plastic six-pack ring caught around its beak and wing.

"Jess you wait here while I tell Dad," ordered Jenni. She returned to where her parents sat and explained to her father what they had discovered. They went back to where Jess was standing guard over the troubled gull. Mr. Everett carefully placed a beach towel over the bird and scooped it up carefully so as not to cause it any more harm.

"We'll have to take him to the Ranger's Station at the entrance of the State Park," said Mr. Everett.

The Everett family sat waiting in the main office at the Black Rock Ranger's Station. When they had arrived they gave the seagull to Ranger Bob Shaw, who had taken the seagull into the animal clinic in the back room. After fifteen minutes Ranger Shaw came back out to the front office area.

"Is he going to be all right?" exclaimed Jenni as she jumped up from her seat.

"Yes, thanks to all of you," said Ranger Shaw with a big smile. "He is a very lucky bird," continued Ranger Shaw "there are many other animals who are not quite as fortunate." He explained to the Everett family that there are many animals in Black Rock Park that are killed each year from eating or becoming tangled in plastic trash. He said that millions of animals throughout the whole world die from the pollution that is dumped into our environment each year. These animals include birds, marine animals, wildlife and even people's pets.

"I did notice a lot of cans, bottles, food wrappers and other trash when we were walking along the beach," noted Jessica. "Isn't there anything we can do to help?"

"You sure can! There are many things you can do to help reduce the amount of pollution in our world. Just follow these steps on our Pollution Busters card." It read:

Do Not Litter—remember to put trash in its proper place, a wastebasket, and remind your friends to do the same.

Recycle glass, paper and plastic products whenever possible. This reduces the need to make more products that end up being thrown away.

Use Biodegradable Products—these are products that break down when they are exposed to sunlight.

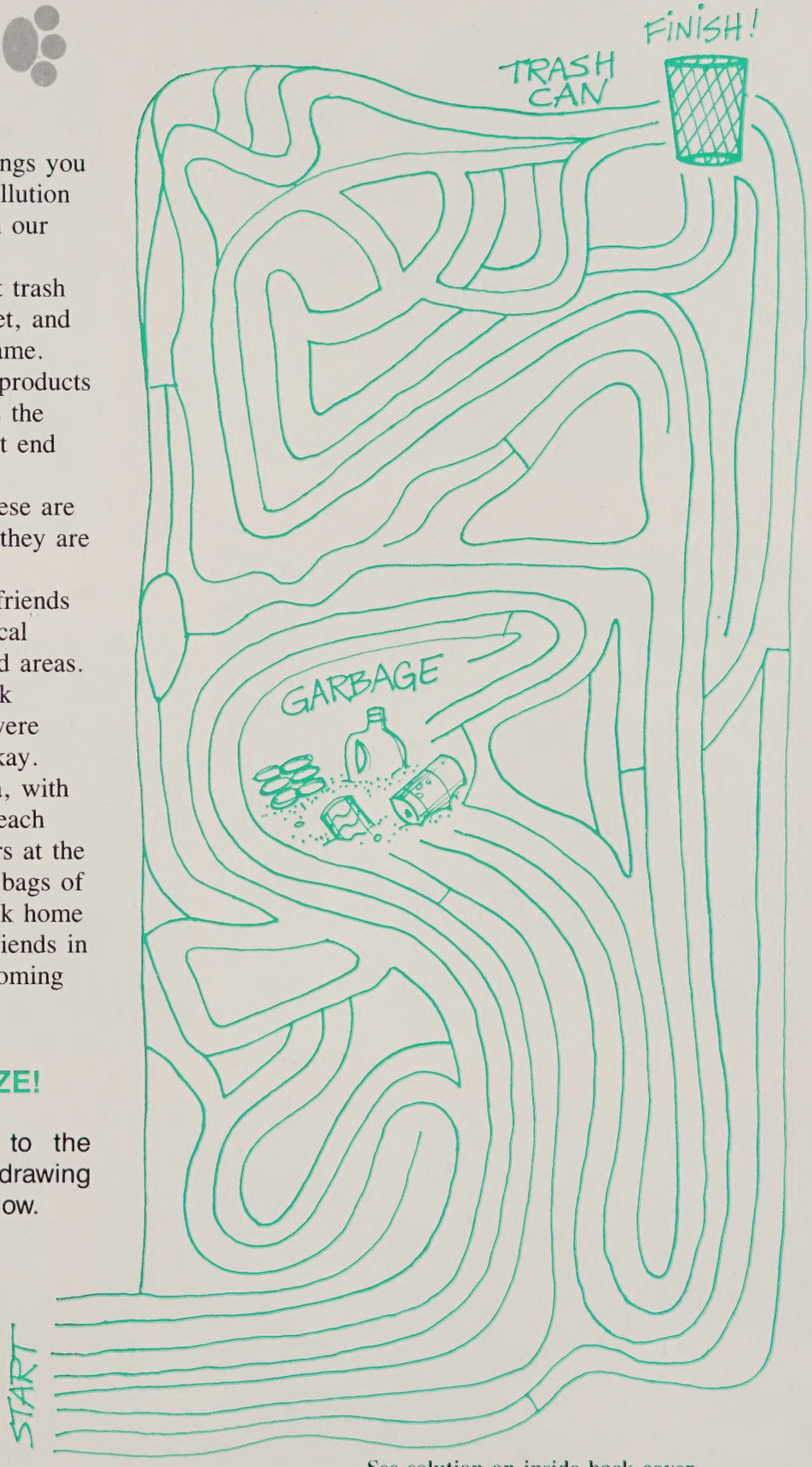
Organize Litter Clean-ups—get friends from your school to clean up local beaches, parks and neighborhood areas.

The Everett family thanked the Park Ranger as they left. Jessica and Jenni were glad that the seagull was going to be okay.

The next morning Jenni and Jessica, with the help of their parents, organized a beach clean-up with some of the other campers at the State Park. They collected over twenty bags of trash. The girls couldn't wait to get back home where they hoped to involve all their friends in helping to reduce litter. They were becoming real Pollution Busters!!!

POLLUTION BUSTERS MAZE!

Help connect Jessica and Jenni to the garbage and then to the trash can by drawing a line along the path they should follow.



See solution on inside back cover

90th ANNIVERSARY PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

Here are the award-winning photos in the black and white categories:

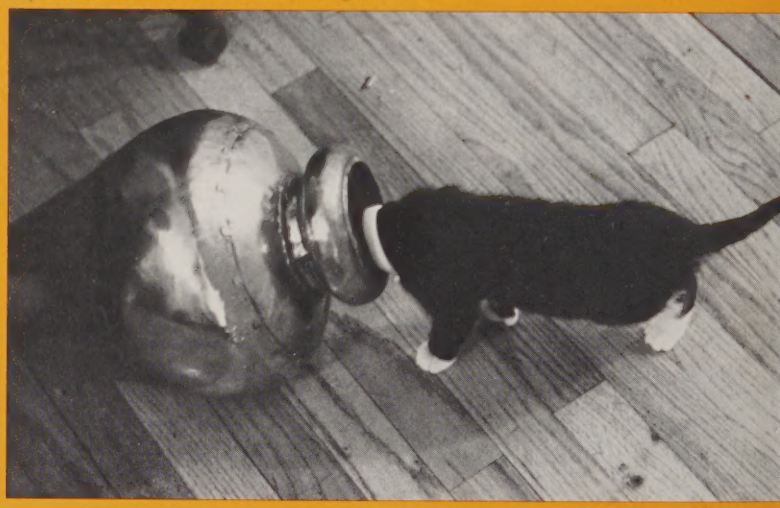
▲ *Second prize, adult: Cheryl Kalus, Everett*

▲ *First prize, junior: Renée Valle, 17, Brewster*

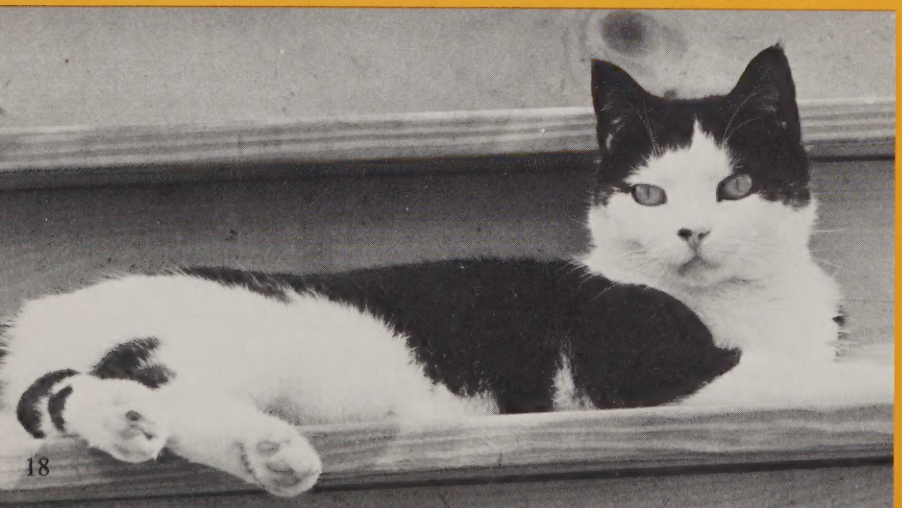
Third prize, junior:
▼ *Holly Goss Kerns, 17, Walpole*

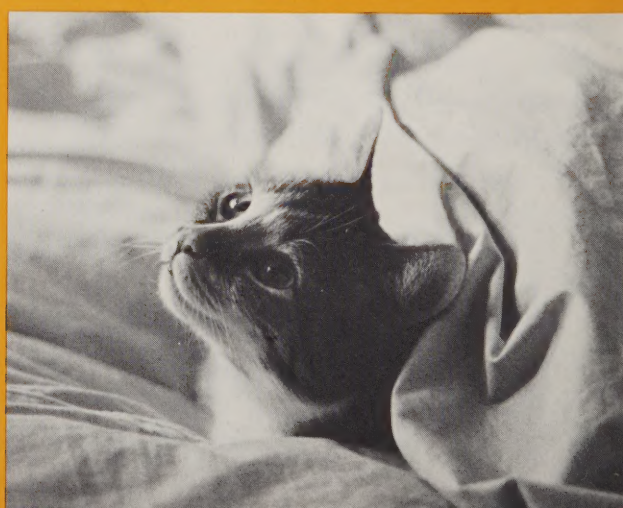
▼ *Second prize, junior: Holly Goss Kerns, 17, Walpole*

Third prize, adult:
▼ *Elizabeth Ebrahimi-Massihi, Arlington*



▼ *First prize, adult: Susan Furst, South Boston*





Sweatshirts for Youngsters and Adults

Choice of two attractive styles:

Style #1:

White sweatshirt with puppy and kitten design on front (above, left).

Style #2:

Dark sweatshirt with design of assorted animals on back. League name and logo in small letters on front. Comes in black for adult sizes, and navy blue for children.

Both sweatshirts available in:

Children's Sizes:

X-Small (2-4) Small (6-8) Medium (10-12) Large (14-16)
$10.50

Adult Sizes:

Small (34-36) Medium (38-40) Large (42-44) X-Large (46-48)
$11.50

Order Form:

Sweatshirt #1 (white): Children's size(s)___ at **$10.50** each
Adult size(s)_____ at **$11.50** each

Sweatshirt #2 (black or navy): Children's size(s)___ at **$10.50** each
Adult size(s)_____ at **$11.50** each

Costs include postage and packaging.

Name _____

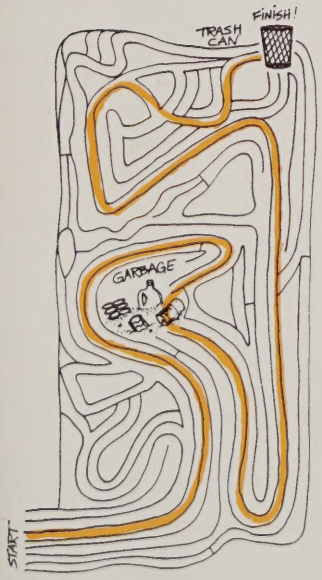
Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Enclosed is my check in the amount of $_____, made payable to the Animal Rescue League of Boston.

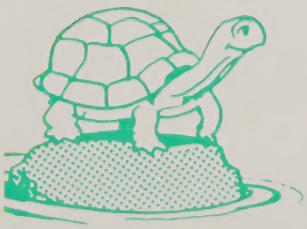
Mail to:
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265
Boston, MA 02117



Solution to Maze

Moving?

Please allow two months for us to correct our mailing list.



Please let us know if you're planning to move so we can be sure that you receive OUR FOURFOOTED FRIENDS without interruption.

Old Address:

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State_____ Zip_____

(please print or attach mailing label)

New Address:

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State_____ Zip_____

Photo contest winner:

First prize, adult color: Gina Mantino, Lynn

Our Fourfooted Friends (US ISSN 0030-6851)
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265, Boston, Massachusetts 02117